United Nations S/2002/94

Security Council

Distr.: General
22 January 2002

Original: English

Letter dated 21 January 2002 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism addressed to the President of the Security Council

The Counter-Terrorism Committee has received the attached report from Niger, submitted pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 1373 (2001) (see annex).

I should be grateful if you could arrange for this letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jeremy **Greenstock**
Chairman
Counter-Terrorism Committee

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Annex

[Original: French]

Letter dated 18 January 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Niger to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

Pursuant to Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the measures taken by the Government of the Republic of Niger to combat international terrorism.

In addition to the above-mentioned measures, the national committee on counter-terrorism is preparing a report on needs and planned action, which will be transmitted to you shortly.

(*Signed*) Ousmane **Moutari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Measures aimed at eliminating international terrorism

The Republic of Niger is a peaceful country which has made the maintenance of international peace and security a tenet of its foreign policy. It has no warlike intentions.

That tenet has been consistently reaffirmed by various political rulers from independence until today.

A former President of the Republic of Niger said "we would like all the other peoples of the world to enjoy the peace and security that we seek for Niger". The outcome of our leaders' policy of striving to achieve international peace and security has been the development of friendly, good neighbourly relations and cooperation with neighbouring countries.

In that regard, the Republic of Niger condemns the use of violence as a means of asserting one's views or settling conflicts. It advocates the peaceful settlement of internal and external conflicts. Niger has taken a number of practical measures to combat terrorism:

1 — *At the international level*: Niger ratified the following key legal instruments aimed at combating various manifestations of terrorism:

- Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft, ratified on 27 July 1969;
- Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft, ratified on 15 October 1971;
- Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation, ratified on 1 November 1972;
- Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents, date of accession, 17 June 1985;
- Organization of African Unity Convention for the Elimination of Mercenarism in Africa, ratified on 11 July 1980.

In 2001, Niger also signed, in accordance with article 3 of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, a Safeguards Agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) aimed at ensuring Niger's compliance with its obligations under the Treaty not to divert nuclear energy from peaceful uses towards the manufacture of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.

In that connection, Niger also signed in 2001 a protocol for the establishment in Niger of two international monitoring stations with the Preparatory Commission of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization.

In order to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, a verification regime based on the following elements has been established:

- An international monitoring system;
- Consultation and clarification;

– On-site inspections;

– Confidence-building measures.

The international monitoring system consists, inter alia, of setting up stations for seismologic monitoring and the monitoring of radio-nucleides, including approved laboratories, as well as appropriate means of communication.

In addition, our country has embarked upon procedures for approving some texts relating to terrorism, namely:

– The International Convention against the Taking of Hostages;

– The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

Niger will soon initiate the procedure for the approval of the following conventions:

– International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries;

– International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings;

– International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism;

– Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation, Supplementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation.

2 — *At the national level*: Under the Penal Code of Niger, terrorist acts are punished in accordance with international and regional conventions in that area.

Thus, attacks, plots and other offences aimed at undermining the State's authority and national territorial integrity are punishable under article 78 and following of the Penal Code.

The foregoing shows that Niger is a peaceful State that rejects the use of violence as a means of settling disputes. Accordingly, Niger's bilateral and multilateral partners should assist it to strengthen that policy by providing it with technical and financial support so that it may enhance security in its territory and the territories of other countries through integration and cooperation.